

REMARKS

This Amendment is being submitted in Response to the Office action of December 28, 2004, wherein each of pending claims 1-56 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patent over claims 1-28 of copending Application No. 10/453,596 (the "'596 Application") and claims 1-56 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patent over claims 1-45 of U.S. Patent No. 6,424,872 (the "'872 Patent").

In response, Applicant submits herewith a Terminal Disclaimer disclaiming any term which would extend beyond the earliest expiration date of the '596 Application and the '872 Patent. In view thereof, Applicant asserts that all outstanding rejections have been overcome and respectfully requests the Examiner to issue a Notice of Allowance for all of pending claims 1-56.

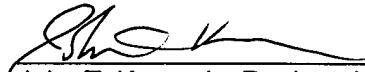
Further, Applicant submits herewith an amendment to the specification and a Petition to Correct the Priority Claim of the present application by claiming priority to the copending '596 Application and thereby to patent application serial number 08/916,178, filed on 21 August 1997, from which the '872 Patent issued.

Further, a petition for one-month extension of time is included herewith. Accordingly, please charge Deposit Account No. 04-1415 in the amount of \$1,620.00, (\$120.00 for one-month extension of time fee, \$1,370.00 for Petition to Accept Unintentionally Delayed Claim fee and \$130.00 for Terminal Disclaimer fee). The Applicant believes no further fees or petitions are required. However, if any such petitions or fees are necessary, please consider this a request therefor and authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1415 accordingly.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the considerate review of each of the pending claims in the present application. If the Examiner should require any additional information or amendment, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated: 28 April 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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